

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A filter comprising:
a filter body; and
a seal member fused to a peripheral edge portion of the filter body, by being fused to fibers that form the filter body when the fibers are in a semi-melted state,
wherein the filter body and the seal member are separate members, and the peripheral edge portion of the filter body is a flange.
2. (Original) A filter according to claim 1, wherein the seal member has an engaging portion that engages with the semi-melted fibers.
3. (Currently Amended) A filter comprising:
a filter body formed by layering semi-melted fibers over a forming surface; and
a seal member attached to a peripheral edge portion of the filter body, by being fused to the semi-melted fibers,
wherein the filter body and the seal member are separate members, and the peripheral edge portion of the filter body is a flange.
4. (Original) A filter according to claim 3, wherein the seal member has an engaging portion that engages with the semi-melted fibers.
5. (Original) A filter according to claim 3, wherein at least a portion of the forming surface is formed by a member that is fusable to the semi-melted fibers.
6. (Original) A filter according to claim 5, wherein the filter body includes a filtering portion, and
the member fusable to the semi-melted fibers forms a portion of the filtering portion.

7. (Original) A filter according to claim 5, wherein the member fusable to the semi-melted fibers is a non-woven fabric.
8. (Original) A filter according to claim 5, wherein at least a portion of the seal member is provided between the semi-melted fibers and the member fusable to the semi-melted fibers.
9. (Original) A filter according to claim 3, wherein at least a portion of the forming surface is a forming surface of a die for forming the filter.
10. (Original) A filter according to claim 3, further comprising a member that is fusable to the semi-melted fibers and that is disposed on the forming surface,
wherein at least a portion of the seal member is provided between the semi-melted fibers and the member fusable to the semi-melted fibers.
11. (Original) A production method for a filter, comprising:
disposing a seal member over a forming surface; and
subsequently forming a filter body by layering semi-melted fibers over the forming surface and the seal member.
12. (Original) A production method for a filter according to claim 11, further comprising forming the forming surface made by a member fusable to the semi-melted fibers before disposing the seal member over the forming surface.
13. (Original) A production method for a filter according to claim 12, wherein the member fusable to the semi-melted fibers is a non-woven fabric.
14. (Original) A production method for a filter according to claim 13, wherein the filter body has a filtering portion, and a portion of the filtering portion is formed by the non-woven fabric.

15. (Original) A production method for a filter according to claim 13, wherein the non-woven fabric is formed by layering the semi-melted fibers on a forming die before disposing the seal member over the forming surface.

16. (Original) A production method for a filter according to claim 11, further comprising disposing a member that is fusable to the semi-melted fibers on the forming surface before disposing the seal member over the forming surface,

wherein the seal member is disposed on the member fusable to the semi-melted fibers.

17. (Currently Amended) A production method for a filter according to claim 16, wherein the member fusable to the semi-melted fibers is a plate member.

18. (Original) A production method for a filter according to claim 11, wherein the seal member is in a heated state when the seal member is disposed over the forming surface.

19. (Original) A production method for a filter according to claim 11, wherein the forming surface is a forming die that is not a part of the filter.

20. (Original) A filter made by the method of claim 11.

21. (New) A filter comprising:

a filter body; and

a seal member fused to a peripheral edge portion of the filter body, by being fused to fibers that form the filter body when the fibers are in a semi-melted state,

wherein the seal member has inner and outer peripheral surfaces, and the semi-melted fibers are fused to the inner and outer peripheral surfaces of the seal member.

22. (New) A filter comprising:

a filter body formed by layering semi-melted fibers over a forming surface; and

a seal member attached to a peripheral edge portion of the filter body, by being fused to the semi-melted fibers,

wherein at least a portion of the forming surface is formed by a member that is fusable to the semi-melted fibers, and at least a portion of the seal member is provided between the semi-melted fibers and the member fusable to the semi-melted fibers.

23. (New) A filter comprising:

a filter body formed by layering semi-melted fibers over a forming surface;

a seal member attached to a peripheral edge portion of the filter body, by being fused to the semi-melted fibers; and

a member that is fusable to the semi-melted fibers and that is disposed on the forming surface,

wherein at least a portion of the seal member is provided between the semi-melted fibers and the member fusable to the semi-melted fibers.